

KISSED HIS WIFE THEN KILLED HER HIGGINS ADMITS

Man Says Love for Step-daughter Drove Him to Kill Her Mother—Girl Taunted Him Till He Had to Act.

GALESBURG, Ill., Jan. 20.—"While I was thinking of the best way to kill my wife I kissed her—kissed her full upon the lips," Robert Higgins, confessed slayer of his wife, who killed her because of the pleadings of his stepdaughter, 15-year-old Julia Fluke, made this statement Tuesday in starting the remarkable story of his crime.

It was the first public statement Higgins had been permitted to make since his arrest for the death of Mrs. Robert Fluke Higgins, mother of the girl who it is alleged desired her death so that she herself could wed her stepfather.

As Higgins related the story he carelessly flicked the ash from a cigarette. He talked without any outward evidence of emotion. There was nothing in his manner to indicate regret or remorse.

"I killed her because Julia asked me to," he said, and blew a cloud of smoke into the air. "I had no particular interest in what they may do to me."

Pressed for the details of the beginning of the illicit love affair between himself and his stepdaughter, the 15-year-old Julia Higgins said:

"It was last summer I believe that it started. Julia began to put love notes in my pockets. She would write me a note two or three times a week and smuggle them into my coat. When we were left alone one day she told me of other love affairs she had. I didn't think she was telling the truth—but who would refuse a girl's love when offered to him?"

Higgins had already explained that the improper relations between himself and the girl were a part of what he termed "love."

"Who suggested the killing," Higgins was asked.

Girl Taunted Him.

"Julia did. She met me on the street on Jan. 4. When are you going to kill mother?" she asked me. I did not answer and she called me a coward. She told me that if I was going to do it at all, I had better do it at once."

"My wife never suspected me of loving anybody else. I went back to the house. My wife kissed me. I kissed her. I was thinking of Julia's taunts. On the morning of the murder I went for the mail. When I came home I again kissed my wife for the last time. I shot her. I love Julia. I didn't at first but I came to have greater affection for her than for my wife. It was because of her threats that she would commit suicide unless I killed my wife that I did as she told me."

"The police told me that she had confessed everything. They said that they could believe that I killed my wife. They said that Julia would be punished unless I confessed. That is why I told them all—to save Julia."

Higgins stretched his legs on a bench in his cell, closed his eyes and went to sleep.

Letters written by the girl to her cousin, Marie Ernst, and to her uncle, C. W. Ernst, of Galesburg, substantiate the statement of Higgins in part. Once she wrote to her cousin:

"Does your father still have his intentions of killing mother that he has had? If he has I wish he would come at once."

In another letter she wrote to her uncle:

"If you will kill mother I will pay you and pay you well. Of course, you know I could pay you I am 18."

The girl inherited a \$7,000 estate from her father at his death. She offered to divide this with her uncle if he would consent to the marriage. Mrs. Charles E. Franklin, the girl's aunt, is caring for Julia, and stood between the interviewers and the girl.

"Julia is a mere child," Mrs. Franklin said. "She was not in love with Higgins. He is a beast. Julia was afraid of him. He had threatened both Julia and her mother. How can you expect a child to be responsible for such things?"

Most of the expressions heard on the streets here and in Galesburg are in line with what Mrs. Franklin says. Higgins is believed to have been the real offender. In North Henderson, where Higgins' father is a wealthy and influential citizen, popular expressions favor him and lay the blame upon the girl.

DOCTORS TREAT MAN WHO ROBBED STORE

Robert Mattingly Who Married South Bend Telephone Girl to Be Given Examination.

Special to News-Times.

BENTON HARBOR, Mich., Jan. 20.—Robert Mattingly, 23, formerly of South Bend, who has given Judge Bridgman considerable trouble by violating his parole, is now being treated by the medical crime commission recently appointed by the court. Mattingly took pretty Ruth C. Moon, a telephone operator in the South Bend exchange as his bride, a short time ago, and it was she who was instrumental in securing the clemency for Mattingly. He and Edward Brooks of Mishawaka were arrested on a charge of robbing a Buchanan store.

CRAWFORDSVILLE.—Open house was observed yesterday by the Y. M. C. A. of this city for the purpose of giving the public an opportunity of examining the new \$50,000 building which has been completed for the association. A campaign to raise \$20,000, the amount of the remaining indebtedness, is about to be started.

Woman Leads Democratic Party Fight in Colorado



MRS. GERTRUDE A. LEE, CHAIRMAN OF THE DEMOCRATIC STATE COMMITTEE OF COLORADO.

DENY NEW RUMOR BRIDGE QUESTION HUERTA TO QUIT TO BE UP TONIGHT

All Night Conference Held But Officials Say Only Taxes and Cabinet Changes Were Discussed.

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 20.—Pres. Huerta and Minister of War Blanquet were in consultation until an early hour Tuesday at the National palace. Their conference followed a long cabinet meeting that adjourned shortly before midnight.

Following these two meetings the report was revived that Huerta had decided to withdraw, but government officials denied this rumor.

There are likely to be some important cabinet changes, said an attaché of the National palace, but Pres. Huerta will not resign. Plans are being made to increase the taxes and establish the army on a firm footing. Pres. Huerta is confident that his government will live.

The cabinet changes contemplated include the return of Federico Gamboa to the ministry of foreign relations.

CONSUL HELPS REBELS.

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 20.—Medina Barron in an interview here accuses the American consul at Hermosillo of helping the Zapatistas at every opportunity. According to the federal officer who has just returned from Guaymas, 50 Americans fought with the rebels in their recent attack on that city.

FIGHTING RESUMED.

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 20.—Fighting was resumed at Mazatlan Monday. The federalists helped by the gunboats in the harbor. The casualties are reported to have been numerous on both sides but no details have been received.

Minor engagements were reported Monday in the states of Vera Cruz, Tlaxcala, Michoacan, Morelos, Guerrero, Puebla, Zacatecas and San Luis Potosi.

Five generals and nine other federal officers were killed during the month of December in Zacatecas and San Luis Potosi. In the same month three colonels and 19 other officers were killed in Morelos.

The government announces that the rebels have withdrawn from Matamoros with a loss of 300 men and that the garrison has been reinforced by the arrival of 800 men of Gen. Mass' command. Unofficial advices, however, say the rebels still surround the town.

Rafael Madero, youngest brother of the late Pres. Madero, is reported to have joined Gen. Villa in Chihuahua.

Somellera Brought Back.

Fernandez Somellera, leader of the Catholic party, who was banished to Quintana Roo by order of Huerta because of anti-administration utterances, has been brought back from Vera Cruz to stand trial in the local courts. It was reported Sunday night that Somellera had been granted an unconditional pardon at the request of the archbishop but this proves to have been an error. Senor Zepeda, director of the Catholic newspaper La Nacion, was banished to the penal colony for the same offense. A sentence to Quintana Roo is almost equivalent to a death sentence. Few survive a term in that pestilential territory.

REFUGEES AT MARFA.

MARFA, Tex., Jan. 20.—Nearly all of the 4,697 refugees from Ojinaga have completed the 87 miles march from Presidio to Marfa. The first trainload left late Monday night Fort Bliss. They will arrive there about (CONTINUED ON PAGE TEN).

CHIEF KERR GIVES WEST END SALOON MEN SOME ADVICE

Continues Course of Instruction On How to Obey Liquor Law and Keep Out of Jail.

Continuing his school of legal instruction for saloonists on how to obey rather than how to defeat the law, Chief of Police Kerr had another grist of saloon men before him Tuesday. These latest came from the west end. As with the 41 down-town saloonists Monday, Chief Kerr took the west-enders through the intricate requirements of the Nicholson regulation law, with regard to removal of screens and all obstructions so as to leave a full open view the length of the bar-room during the hours the saloons are supposed to be closed, nights, holidays and Sundays.

If there has been any doubt among the saloonists that the chief means to enforce the liquor laws as required of him by the board of safety, his lectures to them Monday and Tuesday ought to dispel it.

Saloon Men Arraigned.

William Wooster, E. Washington av. saloonkeeper charged with tilting the "lid" Sunday, pleaded not guilty when arraigned before Judge W. C. Tuesday morning in police court. Wooster, it is alleged, allowed two people besides himself to enter the sample room Sunday and he also is charged with having a screen arranged before the bar and windows that prevents people looking into the place.

He admitted that there were three people in the saloon Sunday. Two besides himself, but asserted that one was his porter and the other the janitor. The case was set for Tuesday. Thomas O'Neill, who has a sample room at W. Washington av., held on a similar charge, was not arraigned Tuesday.

Addressing the men both days, Chief Kerr assured them that there is no disposition on the part of the department to persecute anyone, and that he had called them together to explain what the Indiana saloon laws are so that there need be no further excuse for their violation.

Kerr Explains Things.

Through his detectives he appears to have secured a pretty thorough understanding of each man's place, including all nooks and corners, and one by one he took the saloonists to task, explaining things that must be remedied.

Among those present were several who are reputed to be strict observers of the law, but whose premises are so situated with regard to windows, screens, and curtained booths, that they too must do some remodeling in order to meet the legal requirements. A reasonable time is allowed in which to make the changes, say not more than ten days.

Mayor Keller's board of public safety, the result of the law enforcement program affecting the saloons, comes from the west end where the people have. That Clement S. Smogor is considering resigning for business reasons.

Smogor, it is said, can ill afford to offend his customers in his coal and lumber business by backing up such a program as the administration has undertaken. When the story reached down town Monday, the rumor was added to it that in case Smogor should be elected, the board of public safety member, would probably follow. Augustine is held mainly responsible for the stringent law enforcement orders.

Action on the part of Chief Kerr, putting nearly all the saloonists to extra expense in remodeling their premises so as to comply with the Nicholson law, is said to be reflecting upon Smogor, even more seriously than the original orders. The rumor, however, is not taken so very seriously, as yet, in official circles.

JOHN F. MEIGHAN SHOT BY HIS SON

Veteran Civil Engineer Sent to Hospital Carrying Bullet Fired by Son Who May Be Insane—Fired at Brother.

John F. Meighan, 217 Chapin st., one of the oldest civil engineers in South Bend, was shot by his son, Edward, Tuesday morning at 7:30 o'clock at the family residence, and as a result the father lies in a critical condition at St. Joseph's hospital. The son, who it is alleged, is slightly demented, first aimed a bullet at an elder brother who lay in bed, missed him, and then turned the weapon on his father, firing a shot that passed between the father's lungs, entering the body behind the left arm. The son, who is 22, was arrested and is now in the county jail charged with insanity. For several months the boy has been in a weak mental condition, it is alleged. Several times in his life he has been mixed up in petty troubles but his parents had not considered him dangerous.

Meighan, sr., was taken to St. Joseph's hospital, where Dr. J. B. Bertel attended him. Dr. S. A. Clark will make an x-ray picture of the lodging place of the bullet Tuesday afternoon after which it is probable a probe will be made for it. At noon the condition of the injured man was as good as could be expected and it is thought he has a chance for recovery.

Meighan has been a resident of this city all his life and as an engineer has taken part in the surveys of many of the larger projects of construction near here.

STOLE FALSE TEETH.

GRANGER, N. J.—The "meanest" stole false teeth and a glass eye from Gail Wilner's bedroom.

WILSON DEMANDS THAT CONGRESS CURB TRUSTS

HIGH SPOTS IN WILSON MESSAGE TO CONGRESS

"The great business men who organized monopoly have year after year, until now, either denied its existence or justified it as necessary; but all the while opinion has made head against them. The average business man is convinced that the ways of liberty are also the ways of peace and the ways of success as well; and at last the masters of business on the great scale have begun to yield their preference and purpose, perhaps their judgment also, in honorable surrender."

"What we are purposing to do, therefore, is not to hamper business. The antagonism between business and government is over. We are now about to give expression to the best business judgment of America, to what we know to be the business conscience and honor of the land. The government and business men are ready to meet each other half way in a common effort to square business methods with both public opinion and the law."

"We desire the laws we are about to pass to be the bulwarks and safeguards of industry against the forces that have disturbed it. We are all agreed that private monopoly is indefensible and intolerable, and our program is founded upon that conviction. It will be a comprehensive but not a radical or unacceptable program."

"In the first place laws which will effectually prohibit such interlockings of the personnel of the directorates of great corporations—banks and railroads, industrial, commercial and public service bodies—as in effect result in making those who borrow and those who lend practically one and the same, those who sell and those who buy but the same persons trading with one another under different names and those who affect to compete in fact partners and masters of some whole field of business. Sufficient time should be allowed, of course, in which to effect these changes."

"Such a prohibition will bring new enthusiasm, new energy, new spirit of initiative, new blood into the management of our business corporations. It will open a new field to men who have been obliged to serve when their abilities entitled them to direct. It will immensely hearten the young men coming on."

"In the second place, business men as well as those who direct public affairs now recognize with painful clearness, the great harm which has been done to many, if not all, of the great railroads; the way in which their interests have been subordinated to the interests of the men who financed them."

"The country is ready therefore to accept a law which will confer upon the interstate commerce commission the power to superintend the financial operations by which the railroads are henceforth to be supplied with the money which they need for their proper development. It will be one step, and a very important one, toward the necessary separation of the business of production from the business of transportation."

"The business of the country awaits also further and more explicit legislative definition of the meaning of the existing anti-trust laws. Nothing hampers business like uncertainty. Nothing daunts or discourages it like the necessity to take chances."

"We ought to see to it that punishments should fall, not upon business itself, to its confusion and interruption, but upon the individuals who use the instrumentalities of business to do things which public policy and sound business practice condemn. Every act of business is done at the command of and upon the initiative of some ascertainable person or group of persons. These should be held individually responsible."

"We are agreed, I take it, that holding companies should be prohibited, but what of the controlling private ownership of individuals? Shall they be suffered to be themselves in effect holding companies?"

LACK OF LIGHTS IN COUNTY WELL UP CAUSE OF DEATH IN DRUNKENNESS

Coroner Says Inadequate Lighting System Was to Blame for Death of Fireman Hit By Motorcycle.

Lack of sufficient number of electric lights on Vista av., between Sample and Miami sts., caused the accidental death of George M. Stillwell, who was hit by a motorcycle Saturday night, dying of the injuries Sunday, according to the verdict returned by Coroner Swantz, who completed his inquest Tuesday.

The street between Sample and Miami sts. has no lighting facilities and the darkness hid both the motorcycle and the pedestrian, according to Coroner Swantz. Need of more adequate lighting system on Vista av. has been felt for some time, the coroner stated Tuesday, and he will make a recommendation to the common council that more lights be put in.

Stillwell was struck by Samuel Dure, an employee of the Indiana and Michigan Gas and Electric Co., while he was walking down the center of the car tracks. Dure testified that he did not see Stillwell until he struck him. Two witnesses were called. Neither saw the accident, but both were nearby and rushed to the spot after the crash. They were C. L. Smith and Bernice Lennen. Injured Dure remained with the ambulance until he was taken into custody by the police pending the investigation. He was released when the evidence pointed out that he was not to blame. Stillwell was walking toward the city between the tracks nearest the river and was struck by Dure from the rear. The fall to the pavement caused the fractured skull. The machine driven by Dure was not damaged and the lights were burning. Evidence was entered to prove that he was not driving over eight miles an hour.

Funeral services were held for Stillwell Tuesday afternoon at his residence, 1618 Leer st. Rev. Clyde Horst officiating. Crusade lodge No. 14, Knights of Pythias, had charge of the funeral and platoon of firemen and police-men accompanied the body to the grave.

MARTINSVILLE.—John Finn of Indianapolis, pleaded guilty to passing a forged check and was sentenced to two to four years in the penitentiary. The check was for \$15. Finn said drink caused his trouble. He is 31 years old and formerly was a contractor.

ROCHESTER.—Mrs. T. B. Strayer, wife of a farmer, committed suicide by hanging herself in a hospital. She was in the hospital about two months and suffered from the delusion that some one was attempting to kill her.

MONOPOLY MUST GO AND LAWS BE MADE CLEAR TO BUSINESS

Uncertainty Should Be Wiped Out Says President and Government and Business Work Hand in Hand.

TO PUNISH MEN NOT INDUSTRY HE SAYS

Penalties for Violations Should Be Meted Out to Men Responsible—Destroy Interlocking Directorates.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Pres. Wilson called upon congress Tuesday to pass laws to regulate trusts and combinations of capital. Addressing the senators and representatives he inaugurated the third great reform program of his administration, the others relating to tariff and currency.

The president served notice on "big business" that it must alter its methods to coincide with public opinion. He expressed his wish to have corporations shown how to comply with law. At the same time he manifested his desire to have the business law breaker treated as another criminal, holding that guilt is personal. Congressional compliance with this declaration means jail terms for violators of the anti-trust law.

Summarized here are the provisions of the president's reform program:

- 1.—Prohibition of interlocking directorates.
- 2.—Government regulation through the interstate commerce commission, of the financing of railroads.
- 3.—Elimination of the "rule of reason" by explicitly defining the meaning of the anti-trust law.
- 4.—Selection of an interstate trade commission to have administrative control of business, to separate monopolies into their component parts and to do this in aid of the courts or by independent suggestion.
- 5.—"Guilt must be punished."
- 6.—Prohibition of holding companies.
- 7.—Granting of power to individuals injured by trade combinations to file suits for redress.

In announcing these reforms, the president pointed out that these features can now be approached with "dispassionate fairness" because of the disappearance of the atmosphere of suspicion and antagonism. A great crowd which taxed the efforts of police rushed to the capitol to hear the message.

Capitol Is Crowded.

Not since the inauguration have so many spectators, who are expected to be not only for tickets of admission to the galleries, nor in years have more desperate efforts been made to get in through the closely guarded gates of the capitol.

Even the members of the house and senate waited impatiently for the reading of the fifth address by Woodrow Wilson since he entered the presidency.

Democratic leaders were no more eager than were the republicans and the progressives. They had discussed among themselves every possible position on the trust question which the president might assume and in groups they exchanged final predictions as to whether this or that phase of legislation would be emphasized.

The galleries were filled early. Diplomats and their wives, leaders of society and men of power in the business world were there. Outside the chamber those who could not get tickets stood in line to watch the arrivals.

NEIGHBORS CAPTURE MAN ARRESTED FOR ASSAULT

Girl's Screams Attract Help and Harry Garman Lands in City Jail on Serious Charge.

Charged with attempting assault, Harry Garman, who was arrested Tuesday with Goldie Lemons, 14-year-old daughter of Mrs. Thomas Lemons, 1607 Werwinski st., as the complaining witness, was captured by Peter Chelbek and Steve Clevering when he was running from the Lemons' home. The girl's screams attracted neighbors. According to the girl's story, Garman gained access to the home Tuesday morning when Mrs. Lemons was not at home and attempted to assault her. Garman struck her when she screamed the girl says, then fled.

When Garman had been turned over to the police, Goldie identified him. The girl is under the care of Dr. C. C. Terry for a severe nervous shock besides bruises about the head.

SELL DOGS' TEETH.

LONDON.—That considerable trade in dogs' teeth has sprung up in the "dog" islands where they are used for currency and ornaments was revealed in litigation here concerning a contract for 40,000 teeth at \$4 a hundred.